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Security Council

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Identical letters dated 8 June 2017 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring the following to your attention:

1. On 7 June 2017, two gangs of Da'esh terrorists, equipped with assault rifles, grenades and suicide vests, attacked the Iranian Parliament and the mausoleum of the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the late Imam Khomeini, in Tehran, shooting indiscriminately and detonating their explosive vests. As a result, 17 innocent human lives perished, and more than 50 others were wounded.

2. These heinous terrorist attacks, similar to those that have already happened in many others cities around the world, occurred at a time when our region continues to go through turbulence and destabilization, which are the outcome of years of effort aimed at exporting radical *takfirist* ideology and bankrolling such extremist groups as Da'esh, Al-Qaida and the like who embrace it.

3. Given that the proponents of the *takfirist* ideology first and foremost despise democracy and election, it is quite expressive and significant that the Parliament was one of the targets of the terrorist attacks, occurring two weeks after vibrant and hard-fought presidential and local elections in Iran, in which 71 per cent of the Iranian people took part.

4. It was very unfortunate that those who have always been at the origin of this radical ideology recently received encouragement and a green light, cemented by the conclusion of a historically unprecedented arms deal. It is not a coincidence that, thereafter, the situation in our region is deteriorating, progressing from bad to worse, with gaps among countries widening, terrorist activities multiplying and domestic suppression intensifying.

5. The terrorist attacks in Tehran took place on the heels of the rejection, on 2 May 2017, of any dialogue with Iran by the Saudi Defence Minister and his utter threat, emphasizing that "we will work so that the battle is on their side, inside Iran". It is not surprising either that the Saudi Minister for Foreign Affairs had threatened Iran a few hours before the attacks, saying that "Iran must be punished".

6. In my previous letter, dated 4 May 2017 (S/2017/393), I had warned against the irresponsible, provocative and ill-fated policies of Saudi Arabia in promoting and financing extremist groups and its short-sighted and self-defeating adventurism

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in the region, in clear violation of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

7. Following the terrorist attacks of 7 June 2017 in Tehran, I would like to ask the international community, especially the Security Council, to seriously ponder over such a dangerous approach to regional security and its grave consequences, and to spare no efforts in combating violent extremism.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Gholamali **Khoshroo**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative